GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2345
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
NON-FUNCTIONAL MOBILE TOWERS
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Khanna Shri Avinash Rai

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total number of mobile towers installed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) across the country in the rural areas but remained non-functional for the last one year due to non-supply of radiation and other related equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether these equipments have to be imported from outside and there is inordinate delay in supply from the respective companies;

(d) if so, the details of the total order put by the BSNL and MTNL and the number of towers required to be connected by these equipments;

(e) whether large number of villages are badly hit by such delay;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by when this entire process will be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has taken advance action for creation of infrastructure for speedy rollout of BSNL's Mobile expansion projects. State-wise details of towers erected in advance are as follows: 201 towers in Karnataka circle, 22 towers in J&K circle, 15 towers in Assam circle, 193 towers in Tamil Nadu circle and 54 towers in Andhra Pradesh Circle.

(c) to (g) BSNL has already placed orders for around 8.0 Million additional capacities on successful bidder who sources some of the equipment from his foreign principals. It is expected to utilize all the infrastructure created within three months from receipt of equipment thereby extending services to villages planned for coverage against the tender.